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## **NOTICE: INITIATIVE PETITION FILINGS**

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**RE:** Petition formats filed with the Secretary of State and approved for circulation after May 15, 2009

**FROM:** The Colorado Secretary of State, Election Division

**SUBJECT:** Notice of new requirements for petition proponents that compensate petition circulators

**DATE:** June 29, 2009

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### **Passage of H.B. 09-1326 Regarding the Statewide Initiative Process**

On May 15, 2009, H.B. 09-1326 was signed into law, which amended statutory provisions pertaining to petitions, specifically Article 40 of Title 1, Colorado Revised Statutes. If you have filed or plan to file a petition format with the Secretary of State for approval after May 15, 2009, and plan to compensate your petition circulators, please be aware of the following new requirements. A copy of H.B. 09-1326 is available online at the Colorado General Assembly website:

[http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2009a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/5A4C8A345E184B5487257537001A32E4?open&file=1326\\_enr.pdf](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2009a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/5A4C8A345E184B5487257537001A32E4?open&file=1326_enr.pdf)

### **New Petition Entity Licensing & Circulator Training Requirements**

Effective upon passage of the Act on May 15, 2009, any person or issue committee that compensates initiative petition circulators qualifies as a petition entity that is required to obtain a petition entity license from the Secretary of State prior to circulating initiative petitions. (Section 1-40-135, C.R.S). On July 1, 2009, applications to apply for a petition entity license will be available online at the Secretary of State website:

<http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=175>.

To obtain a license, a petition entity must:

- submit an application for petition entity license,
- pay a nonrefundable licensing fee,
- agree not to pay a circulator more than 20% of his/her compensation on a per signature or per petition basis, and
- confirm that a current representative of the petition entity has completed the Secretary of State circulator training program relating to potential fraudulent activities in petition circulation.

In accordance with statute, the required circulator training program will be provided by the Secretary of State beginning July 1, 2009. At that time, any petition entity who filed or plans to file a petition format with the Secretary of State for approval after May 15, 2009 must submit an application for petition entity license after at least one representative has completed the training program. The training program will be available online at the Secretary of State website via the link above.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Program Manager, Kathryn Mikeworth, via email at [Kathryn.mikeworth@sos.state.co.us](mailto:Kathryn.mikeworth@sos.state.co.us) or by phone at 303-894-2200 ext. 6312.